In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 4, with the following:

Q1

--Figure 1 provides amino acid sequence for human IRAK-4 (SEQ ID NO:1).--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 5, with the following:

Q2

--Figure 2 provides nucleotide sequence for the human IRAK-4 cDNA (SEQ ID NO:2).--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 6, with the following:

Q3

--Figure 3 provides amino acid sequence for murine IRAK-4 (SEQ ID NO:3).--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 7, with the following:

Q4

--Figure 4 provides nucleotide sequence for the murine IRAK-4 cDNA (SEQ ID NO:4).--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 31, line 7, with the following:

Q5

--The particular expression vector used to transport the genetic information into the cell is not particularly critical. Any of the conventional vectors used for expression in eukaryotic or prokaryotic cells may be used. Standard bacterial expression vectors include plasmids such as pBR322 based plasmids, pSKF, pET23D, and fusion expression systems such as GST and LacZ. Epitope tags can also be added to recombinant proteins to provide convenient methods of isolation, *e.g.*, c-myc, HA-tag, 6-His tag, maltose binding protein, VSV-G tag, anti-DYKDDDDK (SEQ ID NO:7) tag, or any such tag, a large number of which are well known to those of skill in the art.--